

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 ACDA-05 /081 W

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R 021421Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5427

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 0002

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LT, KN, KS

SUBJECT: LESOTHO STILL REVIEWING POSITION ON TIES WITH NORTH KOREA

REF: 75 MASERU 1337

1. IN MEETING WITH FONMIN MOLAPO TODAY ON DIFFERENT SUBJECT, CHARGE REITERATED U.S. CONCERN THAT GOL'S CONSIDERATION OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH NORTH KOREA DID NOT INDICATE ANY WEAKENING OF ITS SUPPORT OF US/ROK POSITIONS IN UNGA. CHARGE ALSO SAID THAT EXPERIENCE HAD SHOWN THAT NORTH KOREA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD SOUTH KOREA DOES NOT INDICATE THAT IT HAS ACCEPTED IDEA OF EVEN-HANDED TREATMENT OF NORTH AND SOUTH BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

2. MOLAPO SAID GOL WAS CONTINUING TO REVIEW THE SUBJECT AND NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN MADE. HE SAID HE PLANNED TO SEE SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR YEON IN NAIROBI IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO DISCUSS MATTER. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID, LESOTHO HAD NO INTENTION OF ABANDONING ITS WARM RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA, AND WOULD NEVER ACCEPT IDEA THAT KOREAN ISSUE COULD BE RESOLVED WITHOUT
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FULL PARTICIPATION OF SOUTH KOREA. TO ACCEPT SUCH AN IDEA, HE

SAID, WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO DENYING SELF-DETERMINATION TO
MILLIONS OF SOUTH KOREANS.

3. FOR NAIROBI: WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT ON ANY INFORMATION
EMBASSY CAN OBTAIN FROM YEON ON UPCOMING MEETING WITH
MOLAPO.
HAUGHT

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NNN

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